

ACTION SCT-00

RELEASED IN PART

INFO LOG-00 MFA-00 NP-00 AID-00 A-00 CCO-00, 1.4(B), 1.4(D), B6
 CIAE-00 COME-00 CTME-00 INL-00 DOEE-00 DOTE-00 SRPP-00
 DS-00 EAP-00 EB-00 FAAE-00 VC-00 TEDE-00 INR-00
 INSE-00 JUSE-00 L-00 CAC-00 VCE-00 M-00 AC-00
 DCP-01 NRCE-00 NSAE-00 OCS-01 OMB-01 DHS-00 OPIC-01
 PA-00 PM-00 PRS-00 ACE-00 P-00 IRM-00 SSO-00
 SS-00 TRSE-00 USIE-00 USSS-00 ASDS-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00
 PRM-00 DRL-00 G-00 NFAT-00 SAS-00 SWCI-00 /004W
 -----A2D0DD 161159Z /38

O 161145Z SEP 03

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9650

INFO ASEAN COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

FBI WASHDC IMMEDIATE

NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 010633

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/16/2013

TAGS: PTER, PGOV, KJUS, KISL, ASEC, ID

SUBJECT: POLICE CONFIRM 13 JI SUSPECTS ARRESTED; COURT

UPHOLDS AMROZI VERDICT

REF: A. A) JAKARTA 9857

B. B) JAKARTA 10534

C. C) TD 314/47990-03

1. (U) Classified by Political Officer Robert Elston.
 Reason 1.5 (b) and (d).

Summary

2. (SBU) Indonesian National Police (INP) Chief Da'i Bachtiar September 15 publicly confirmed the arrests of 13 additional suspected terrorists with links to Jemaah Islamiyah (JI). Bachtiar told a parliamentary commission that police made these new arrests in stages over the past month in Jakarta, Solo and Sumatra.

An Indonesian appeals court reportedly upheld the death sentence of Bali bomber Amrozi September 16. The laughing

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 CLASSIFIED BY DEPT. OF STATE, L. HEDGBETH, DAS, A/ISS
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 16 SEP 2013
 DATE/CASE ID: 12 MAY 2009 200706444

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

B1

bomber's case will move soon to the Supreme Court for its final appeal.

B1

B6

The Suspect List Grows Longer...

3. (U) Da'i Bachtiar confirmed publicly on September 15 that the INP has arrested 13 additional terror suspects, the first such announcement since police on August 19 confirmed the arrests of ten suspects linked to the August 5 bombing of the JW Marriott Hotel in Jakarta. Along with the announcement, Bachtiar fended off public accusations from legislators and Muslim groups that police were kidnapping Muslim activists, according to the Indonesian press. We have previously reported six of the new suspects. They are: Tamim alias Ahmad Sofyan, Muhaimin Yahya alias Zaid (or Said) (arrested in Jakarta); Ichsan and Suradi alias Abu Usman, (arrested last week in Solo); and two arrests in Sumatra of suspects whose names turned out to be Awaluddin and Ari Wibowo (reftel C). The additional suspects, all arrested in Jakarta, are: Rafi alias Solihin; Pepen (or Teten); Rahmat; Sukimin alias Babe; Zubair alias Lufti; Farhan alias Syamsul Bachri.

... But the Role of Each is Still Emerging

4. (U) Police spokesman Maj. Gen. Ahmad Basyir Barmawi said publicly that the 13 "were suspected of involvement in bomb attacks ... and some participated in meetings to plan the Marriott attack." Indonesia's top detective Erwin Mappaseng told the press that out of the 13, one can be linked to the Marriott bombing and one to a bombing in Medan. According to Mappaseng, Ari Wibowo alias Mustopha knew of plans for a bombing August 5 but not the attack's location at the Marriott, while Awaluddin alias Abu Yasar is wanted in connection with the Christmas Eve 2000 bombings in Medan.

B1

Amrozi One Step Closer to Death

6. (U) An Indonesian appeals court reportedly upheld the death sentence of Bali bomber Amrozi September 16. The laughing bomber's case will move to the Supreme Court for its final appeal. Amrozi has said he was proud of his role in the attack and would welcome death as a martyr. But his lawyers have argued that he does not deserve the death penalty because he played a minor role in the attack and because the court is applying the anti-terror law retroactively.

B1

8. (U) [redacted] author of several reports on terrorism in Indonesia, has suggested to us that Hambali's capture last month by the CIA reignited conspiracy theories in Indonesia that argue the United States is the black hand behind terrorism in Indonesia. The most effective way to counter that perception, [redacted] said, is for Hambali to be brought back to Indonesia so that people here can see him directly and listen to him describe his role in most of the major terror attacks in this country in recent years.

B6

B6

Comment

9. (SBU) Police have been quietly methodical in rolling up terror suspects and then holding them without charges for seven days as permitted by Law 15/2003 on Anti Terrorism. While such methods have advantages, the police force's public silence as arrests occur -- and in several cases police denials of press reports -- have also begun to generate public criticism and claims that authorities have kidnapped or "disappeared" Muslim activists. The local press in recent weeks has published stories of relatives pleading for information about the status of family members detained by police, drawing parallels with Suharto era excesses. The September 15 clarifications from the police helped to set the record straight and alleviate growing public discomfort over the reports. With the most recently publicized arrests, and the Appeals Court's confirmation of Amrozi's death sentence, Indonesia has taken more quick strides in its fight to shut down JI terrorists.

Boyce

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